



Short-term Overseas and Virtual Opportunities for Expert Speakers on U.S. Study Abroad!

The USA Study Abroad branch of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) is pleased to partner with AIEA to offer members opportunities to speak with international education audiences overseas. ECA's Study Abroad Engagement Grants support U.S. embassies and Fulbright Commissions in their efforts to coordinate with local partners in building capacity for diverse U.S. students to study or intern in destinations around the world. Some of the participating U.S. embassies and Fulbright Commissions would like to host expert speakers in their countries for short-term workshops, consultations, or related engagements. Visiting expert speakers must be U.S. citizens. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, most opportunities are virtual, though we will support in-person programs depending on what the health and safety situation will allow in consultation with our Department of State colleagues.

Please see below for more information on currently available opportunities. **To express interest in serving as a virtual expert speaker please send an email StudyAbroad@state.gov by Tuesday, January 11th at midnight with the requested information listed in the call below.** If you have questions please contact StudyAbroad@state.gov.

LILONGWE, MALAWI (VIRTUAL): FEBRUARY- APRIL 2022

Location: **Virtual, Training Series (likely 8-10 virtual sessions over 2-3 months)**

Dates: **February – April 2022**

Trainers Needed: **1**

Estimated grant amount (to cover honorarium and related expenses): **\$4800 (\$600 per engagement = \$200 honoraria per speaking day/webinar + two days of preparation honoraria)**

Language request: **No foreign languages are required.**

Program description:

U.S. Embassy Lilongwe is looking for an expert to train 200 higher education administrators and professionals in a series of virtual webinars to enhance the governance and operational efficacy and effectiveness of public universities. As of July 2021, Malawian public universities are mandated to operate independently without Ministry of Education oversight. Therefore, the focus of the training will be on strengthening curriculum development, promoting collaborative research with U.S. institutions, and highlighting best practices to attract U.S. students for exchange programs. The training topics requested by the Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences are:

- i. Strategies of curriculum development to address societal needs – tailor made curriculum towards virtual/online delivery
- ii. How to build institutional capacity to attract U.S. students, interns, and researchers (setting up and managing of exchange programs)
- iii. How to foster collaborative research between local and international institutions

The virtual trainings are proposed to take place over a two-to-three-month period with webinars held every two weeks. The expert is recommended to have higher education management experience and will need to be able to accommodate a 2 p.m. CAT (7 a.m. EST) start. The selected speaker will work with U.S. Embassy Lilongwe and the Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences to fine tune and plan content, including session length.

GEORGETOWN, GUYANA (In-person, health/safety permitting): APRIL or JUNE 2022

Location: **Georgetown, Guyana**

Speakers Needed: **2**

Dates: **April 18-22, 2022 & June 6-10, 2022 (3 full days, 2 travel days for each trip). It would be preferable to have one expert come in April and the other in June.**

Estimated travel grant amount (to cover flights, meals, lodging, honorarium, and related expenses): **\$5,140 PER PERSON**

Language request: English is the official language

Program description:

The US Embassy in Georgetown Guyana is looking for two experts to help build capacity at the University of Guyana by developing a strategy for the establishment of an International Students' Office.

The University of Guyana is experiencing an influx of attention from the international community both from faculty and students. The university recognizes the need to advance key institutional objectives in the global arena. Facilitating this kind of outreach to other higher education institutions and organizations for potential partnership opportunities requires a hub to serve as the heart of such engagements. Hence, the importance of an international office. The creation of such an office stands to make the global presence of the Campus more authentic.

Below outlines areas of the program that the University wishes to be undertaken:

1. Two, two-day workshops for staff of the Office on Institutional Advancement and the Students'

Services Division focused on:

- a. Developing a strategy for international students' recruitment and exchange.
- b. Organizing and managing outgoing students and incoming international students' welfare.
- c. Designing exchange study programs for international students.
- d. Developing policies for study abroad exchange programs.
- e. Exploring best practices in building international student programs, attracting U.S. students and partnering with U.S. institutions.
- f. Discussing practical issues regarding the logistics of establishing study abroad programs, promoting them, and providing the necessary services/support/education to foreign/American students overseas.
- G. Discussing the expectations of U.S. students, their parents, and their home institutions when they study abroad.
- h. Sharing examples of available funding opportunities to help facilitate such partnerships and exchanges.
- i. Engaging Higher Education Institutions for partnerships. Discuss models for informal and formal linkages between U.S. and Guyanese universities to increase exchange opportunities, and how to strengthen informal ties between universities as a way of launching initial programs.
- j. Managing partnership agreements/maximizing the benefits of signed agreements.
- k. Share guidelines for a policy and institutional framework for a foreign student center.

The list above can be split between the two experts.

2. Participate in meetings with University of Guyana administrators.

GREECE (In-person, health/safety permitting): 2022

Location: **Greece, including Athens and Thessaloniki**

Speakers Needed: **1**

Dates: **TBD, one week. Dates to be determined in consultation with U.S. Embassy and speaker, health/safety conditions permitting.**

Estimated travel grant amount (to cover flights, meals, lodging, honorarium, and related expenses): **\$5,000 (including in-country transit)**

Language request: **Greek language or background with the Greek education system would be “fantastic” but is not required**

Program description:

U.S. Embassy Athens would like to bring an expert U.S. speaker to Greece to lead workshops for local higher education administrators, as well as follow-on meetings, towards the goal of building institutional capacity for hosting more U.S. students at public educational institutions in Greece.

With the support and guidance of the U.S. speaker, participants will explore best practices in building international student programs, attracting U.S. students, partnering with U.S. institutions, examples of successful exchanges between U.S. and Greek institutions, and available funding opportunities to help facilitate such partnerships and exchanges. The speaker would also share best practices on how universities attract international students and communicate information regarding their programs. The U.S. speaker will be invited to introduce the expectations of U.S. students, their parents, and their home institutions when they study abroad, as well.

The speaker should be familiar with administrative aspects of tertiary education and study abroad programs and can share their experience and best practices. He/she must be able to address practical issues regarding the logistics of establishing study abroad programs, promoting them, and then providing the necessary services/support/education to American students overseas.

VIRTUAL WEBINAR SESSIONS: FEBRUARY- DECEMBER 2022

Location: **Virtual**

Speakers Needed: **18-24**

Dates: **Varied (February through December 2022)**

Estimated travel grant amount (to cover honorarium, and related expenses): **\$600 per engagement (\$200 honoraria per speaking day/webinar, and two days of preparation honoraria)**

Language request: **No foreign languages are required.**

Program description:

The State Department's Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs hosts webinars in collaboration with various U.S. embassies and Fulbright Commissions aimed at higher education professionals at institutions outside of the United States. Building on a previous workshops and virtual engagements, in 2022 our virtual webinars will explore partnerships, the changing landscape of U.S. study abroad and international education, and work to increase participation in higher education strategic partnerships and engagement with U.S. university counterparts through webinars on topics including, but not limited to:

- Making the Case for Internationalization and Partnerships During Covid-19
- Social Justice, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion as Foundational for Building University Partnerships
- Building Your Campus Internationalization Strategy
- International Strategic Partnerships Models
- University Partnerships 101: Budgeting and Exploring Resources
- Supporting Short-Term Study Abroad Programs on Your Campus
- Supporting Collaborative Research and Faculty Collaborations
- Rebooting Older Partnerships: Tips and Strategies
- Tools and Strategies for Assessment
- Attracting U.S. Students for Study Abroad
- Institutional Frameworks and Support

To express interest in serving as the U.S. Study Abroad visiting expert speaker, please email the following information to StudyAbroad@state.gov by midnight, Tuesday, January 11th.

- Your name, title, institution, number of years of experience in the field, specializations and information related to any foreign language proficiency;
- A Speakers' Bio (200 words max)
- A brief explanation (no more than 350 words) of why you are a strong candidate for any of the speaking opportunities you are interested in, including your skills, knowledge, professional experience, regional familiarity, or other qualifications.
- Confirmation of your U.S. citizenship (documentation not required to express interest);
- A link to your resume and/or CV
- Would you like to be added to a roster for consideration for other future virtual and/or in-person expert speaker opportunities in 2022 not listed in this call? Y/N

Successful candidates will be put in touch directly with the primary contact overseas (at the U.S. embassy or consulate, bilateral Fulbright Commission, or a partner grantee) to discuss program details and travel grant logistics.

